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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450  
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YOUNG & THOMPSON  
745 SOUTH 23RD STREET 2ND FLOOR  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

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Director's Office  
Group 3700

*In re* Application of  
HOUGHTON ET AL.  
Application No.: 09/319,764  
Filed: September 09, 1999

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**DECISION ON PETITION**

This is a decision on petitioner's request filed July 7, 2003, requesting withdrawal of the holding of abandonment of the above-identified application because the applicant did not receive the Office communication mailed on December 17, 2002 at the correspondence address of record.

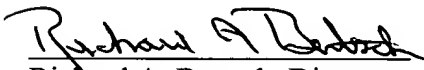
The petition is granted.

In support of the request, petitioner has provided a showing of non-receipt of the Office action in accordance with Official Gazette Notice 1156 O.G. 53 (November 16, 1993). MPEP 711.03(c)II. While a notice of abandonment has not been mailed, the application is technically abandoned for failure to timely respond to the office action of December 17, 2002.

In view of the above, the holding of abandonment is withdrawn.

The Office communication will be remailed and the shortened statutory period that was originally set forth in the Office communication shall be restarted to run from the mail date of the newly supplied Office action or notice.

Summary: Holding of Abandonment Withdrawn.

  
Richard A. Bertsch, Director  
Technology Center 3700